

In the Claims:

Claims 47 and 48 have been canceled.

Claims 44 has been amended as follows:

39. (Once amended) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
  - (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);~~
  - (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~
  - (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.
40. (Once amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 39 having at least 85% amino acid sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide, shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
  - (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);~~
  - (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide, shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.

41. (Once amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 39 having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
  - (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);~~
  - (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~
  - (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.

42. (Once amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 39 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
  - (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:4);~~

- (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.

43. (Once amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 39 having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4);
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
- (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4);~~
- (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4); lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.

44. (Once amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4);
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4), lacking its associated signal peptide; or,
- (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4);~~

- (d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~
- (e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256;  
wherein the encoded polypeptide is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.
45. (Previously added) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 44 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4).
46. (Once amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 44 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO: 4); lacking its associated signal peptide.
- 47-48. (Cancel).
49. (Previously added) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 44 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209256.
50. (Previously added) A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 39 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.
51. (Previously added) The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 50, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an epitope tag or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.